

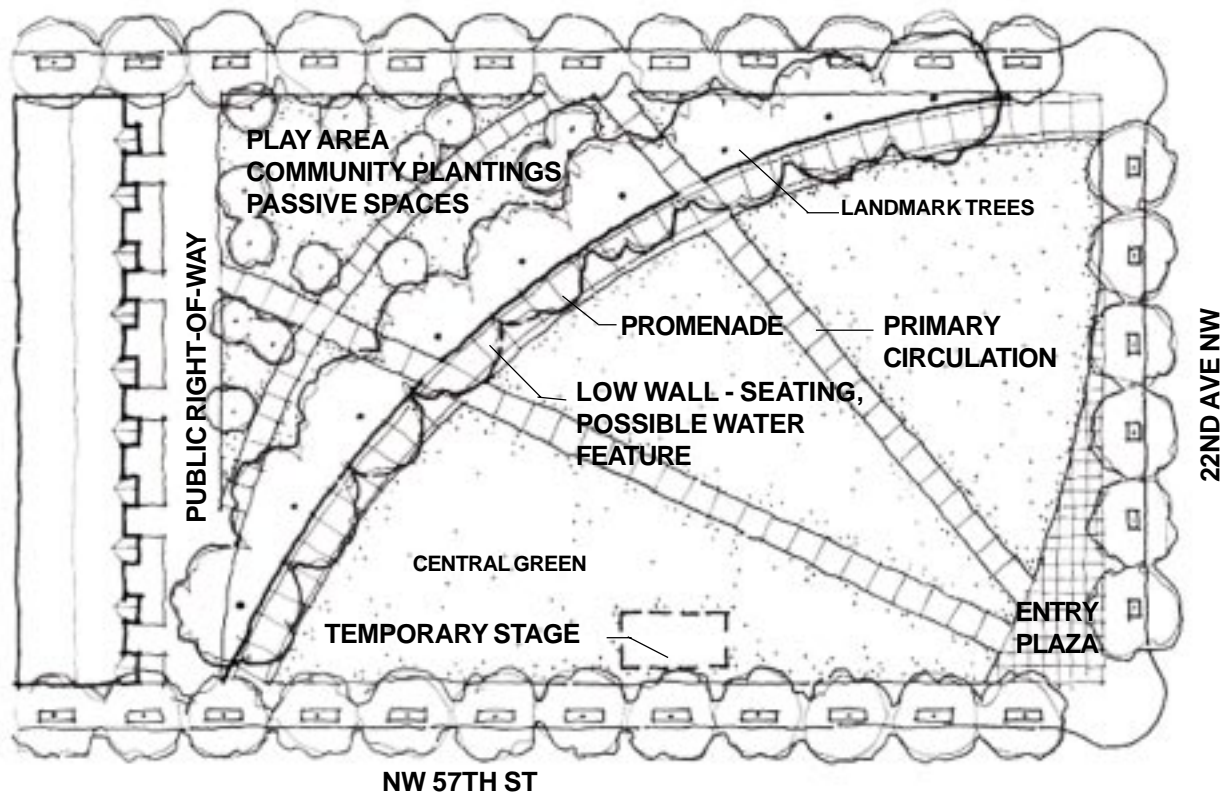
PLAN ELEMENTS

The Park

Concept

This plan recommends the creation of a new public park featuring a large lawn usable for a variety of activities ranging from individual relaxation or play to civic gatherings, festivals and/or public concerts.

NW 58TH ST



This plan illustrates a potential park design with desirable features.

General Design and Circulation

The park should be designed for general and flexible uses, not specific single use activities such as basketball. An overall theme for the park design should reference Ballard's history. A large central promenade should be central to this design. To maximize the green space and perceived size of the park the circulation should utilize the perimeter street sidewalks. Secondary circulation should be left to the discretion of the park designer. Primary paths should have a 6' minimum and 12' maximum width. Small 'meditative' spaces should be included where possible.

Landscaping

The park should provide a singular planting theme with abundant plant material. Five primary types of plantings are recommended: lawn, trees, shrubs, ground cover and annuals. A large flexible-use lawn space should provide the central organization of the park design and include variable topography. Large trees, both deciduous and conifers are particularly important since they are rare in the Ballard neighborhoods. However, conifers should be limbed high to avoid dark areas. Planting types and locations should support the intended park activities. Low dense plantings should not be used where they prevent quick visual surveillance. Space should be included for interactive plantings to be sponsored by volunteers. Careful attention must be paid to design and construction details such as providing adequate slope and proper subbase to allow the large lawn area to drain well.

Furnishings, Lighting, and Neighborhood Kiosk

The design of the park furniture should be at discretion of the final park design process. Opportunities to coordinate with streetscape standards should be carefully considered to help extend the image of the park to surrounding streets. Bicycle racks should be restricted to the perimeter of the park, preferably in the street furnishing zone. Litter and recycling receptacles should be provided consistent with streetscape standards. Abundant pedestrian light fixtures consistent with streetscape standards will be important to encourage use of the park in the evening and late winter afternoons. Public art is encouraged to be realized through furniture projects.



The park should have a maritime reference such as the geometry of a sextant



A community information kiosk should be included in the park design.



The park should provide a venue for community concerts...



individual play...



and seasonal celebrations.

Some particular furnishings should occur at a consolidated urban plaza location: drinking fountain, game surfaces (e.g. chess), community information kiosk, directional and informational signs. In addition, the design should allow for a small food vending kiosk with moveable chairs and a neighborhood kiosk to advertise events. Maintenance/rotation of kiosk information should be the responsibility of the BDC/NSC and/or Library and would provide a great opportunity to inform and strengthen sense of community.

Fountain/Water Feature

A primary fountain should be considered for further study recognizing that a secured long term local sponsorship is essential. A permanent endowment for operation and maintenance is feasible and would ensure enjoyment of such a special element by future generations. A design that features interaction such as a children's wading pool is encouraged. A passive or low volume water feature should also be considered, but not necessarily as a substitute for a primary water feature.

Architectural Structures

Permanent structures in the park should be limited to minor areas for weather protection and information kiosk. However the design should anticipate locations for temporary structures for special events

Public Restrooms

Public restrooms are not recommended due to cost and security concerns. Ongoing planning efforts should consider the future ability to provide public restrooms if local sponsorship could ensure maintenance and safe operation.

Parking

Since the park is intended to primarily serve the surrounding residential and commercial neighborhoods and due to limited space, designated off-street parking is not recommended for the park. On-street ADA parking spaces should be signed and designated directly adjacent the park.

Implementation

